

DOCUMENT 2723

LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS, after having been duly sworn, testified at the Town of Palo, Province of Leyte, P. I., on 18 October, 1945, as follows:

- Q State your name, age, nationality and address.
- A Leonora Palacio Villas, 21 years old, Filipino, residing at 24 Luntad Street, Palo, Leyte, P. I.
- Q In February 1942 did you or your brothers suffer any indignities or mistreatment at the hands of the Japanese stationed in Palo?
- A On Sunday afternoon in the middle of February 1942, myself and my two brothers, Fidel and Florentino and some other members of the family were taken to the Municipal building in Palo. That afternoon my brother's child had been baptized and at the house there were a number of guerrillas and friends of the family. One of the guerrillas was discovered and the Japanese, believing that there were others there, took myself, my brothers and other members of the family to Palo municipal jail and concentrated us. We were kept overnight in the municipal jail and during this period we were never questioned by the Japanese soldiers. My brother Fidel was taken out, his hands were tied behind his back and another rope was tied to his hands and thrown over a tree. He hung there stark naked. As he hung there a Japanese soldier beat him unmercifully, drawing blood from his eyes and his nose and other parts of his body. He was also whipped with a thorn branch on various parts of his body. He was continually beaten for a period of three hours. While he was hanging there the Japanese poured gasoline under his arms and around his private parts and they set it afire. As he hung there he shouted for help due to the intensity of the burns and beating. He was very weak and almost unconscious when he was cut down and taken into the prison. As soon as Fidel was cut down my brother Florentino was tied in a similar fashion and beaten for a period of about three and a half hours, drawing blood from his eyes, ears, nose and various parts of his body. He was also beaten with a switch. Gasoline was poured on the hair underneath his arms, on the hair around his private parts and set afire. Both my brothers were cut down but at no time were they given any medical treatment for their wounds and burns they had suffered at the hands of the Japanese. Florentino was twenty three years old, Fidel about thirty three. Both of them have scars around and underneath their arms and around their private parts. After Fidel had been cut down he was brought by a patrol to identify places where guerrillas might possibly be located. My younger brother, Florentino was left in jail and nothing further was done about him. Two days after they were tortured, both my brothers were taken to Tacloban. They were kept in the Japanese garrison at Tacloban for a period of about two months. My brothers were released from prison but were not allowed to return to Palo. My brothers told me that while they were in prison at Tacloban they suffered further indignities at the hands of the Japanese. Florentino was burned again about the arms and their scars are

still present. Fidel was hung again and beaten unmercifully by the Japanese and his eyes were swollen and shut, he spit blood and his body was covered with bruises. I had been released on Monday morning after the torture of my brothers. On Tuesday morning I was taken by the Japanese soldiers to the municipal building. The Japanese removed all my clothing and as I stood there naked the Japanese soldiers beat me with a switch. The Japanese soldiers took my clothes and dressed me and gave me a little water. I spent three days in jail without any medical treatment and could hardly move because my body was so stiff and sore from the treatment I had received. While I was in prison for this 3-day period the Japanese gave me some food and water but in no way molested me.

Q Did any other members of your family suffer beatings at the hands of the Japanese?

A No. They were released on Sunday and sent home.

Q Do you know who was responsible for the beating administered to your brothers and to yourself?

A Captain Humejara. He was about 5'9", 160 pounds, did not wear glasses, spoke no English or Visayan, no scars that were visible, no amputations, no gold teeth, light brown complexion, had a mustache, short hair, about 35 years old. Sgt. Estani, white complexion, 5 feet tall, about 110 pounds, wore glasses, no scars and marks on his face, no amputations, spoke English and little Visayan, no mustache, no gold teeth, about 26 years old, very close cropped hair. These are the only two Japanese that I remember.

Q Have you anything further to add to this statement?

A None.

/s/ Leonora Palacio Villas
LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES)
PROVINCE OF LEYTE) SS
TOWN OF PALO)

I, LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read and understood the foregoing transcription of my interrogation and all answers contained therein, consisting of two (2) pages, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Leonora Palacio Villas
LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of October, 1945.

/s/ John J. Mullahy
JOHN J. MULLAHY, 1st Lt., C.M.I
Investigating Officer, War
Crimes Investigating Detachment

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C E R T I F I C A T E

We, ADDISON T. SHEPHERD, 2d Lt., C2052606, JAGD and JOHN J. MULLAHY, 1st Lt., 01798502, C.M.P., certify that on 18th day of October, 1945, personally appeared before us LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS, and gave the foregoing answers to the several questions set forth; that after her testimony had been transcribed, the said LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS read the same and affixed her signature thereto in our presence.

Town of Palo,
Leyte, P. I.

/s/ Addison T. Shepherd
ADDISON T. SHEPHERD, 2nd Lt.JAG

19th day of October,
1945

/s/ John J. Mullahy
JOHN J. MULLAHY, 1st Lt., C.M.P.
Investigating Officer, War
Crimes Investigating Detachment.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Alva C. Carpenter, Chief, Legal Section,
General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the
Allied Powers, do hereby certify that the attached
photostatic copy of the affidavit of LEONORA PALACIO
VILLAS is a true and correct reproduction of the
original affidavit; and that a signed and sworn
copy of said affidavit is presently on file with
this Section.

/s/ Alva C. Carpenter
Alva C. Carpenter,
Chief, Legal Section.

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 29th
day of October, 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard
Captain, Infantry
Summary Court

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證明書

Ex 1417

余、聯合國最高指揮官總司令兼法律部長「ル・カ・ベニタ」
ハ、添附「レオラ・ベニタ・グレイズ」口供書、復寫、復寫、口供書
原本、復寫、復寫、復寫、署名官「ル・カ・ベニタ」右口供書
寫、現在當部、書類綴中ニ「レオラ」茲ニ証明ス。

法律部長

「ル・カ・ベニタ」(署名)

證人「ジョー・アール・ブリクハート」(署名)

日本東京於一九四六年昭和二十一年本月十九日余、面前ニ
於テ宣誓セラル。

即決裁判所

佐兵大尉「ジョー・アール・ブリクハート」

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No 2

「オウ、バウ、フ、イ、エ、正當ニ合點ニシテ彼武島ニ于テ、
バ市ニ於テ一九四三年十月十八日、如ク證言ニシテ。

同 汝、名年、國籍、在、所、述、之、
「オウ、バウ、フ、イ、エ、ニ、一、オ、イ、リ、シ、人、住、所、武、島、
ニ、在、ル、バ、ロ、ニ、シ、テ、街、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、

同 一九四三年三月廿四日、汝、兄弟、バ、ロ、ニ、駐、也、セ、シ、日、本、人、々、ニ、於、
ニ、何、等、ノ、侮、辱、或、ハ、虐、待、ヲ、受、ケ、ル、

答 一九四三年三月廿四日、自、白、言、自、身、ニ、在、ル、二、人、兄、弟、
「オ、イ、リ、シ、人、々、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
カ、ラ、フ、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
ク、不、正、規、兵、ト、シ、テ、友、人、々、居、ル、不、正、規、兵、一、名、ハ、發、見、サ、レ、
タ、リ、其、他、二、名、ハ、信、ト、日、本、人、ハ、自、身、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
並、ニ、其、他、二、名、ハ、信、ト、日、本、人、ハ、自、身、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
且、本、ノ、兵、隊、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
ハ、外、ニ、出、テ、彼、等、中、後、ニ、結、ル、又、他、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
ノ、所、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
カ、ラ、フ、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
並、ニ、其、他、二、名、ハ、信、ト、日、本、人、ハ、自、身、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
ニ、在、リ、シ、地、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
同、同、不、正、規、兵、ト、シ、テ、友、人、々、居、ル、不、正、規、兵、一、名、ハ、發、見、サ、レ、
タ、リ、其、他、二、名、ハ、信、ト、日、本、人、ハ、自、身、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、
並、ニ、其、他、二、名、ハ、信、ト、日、本、人、ハ、自、身、ニ、在、リ、シ、地、

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No 4

ヨリ市廳ニ送リ行カシ日本入ルニ此ノ衣類ヲ
取リ去リシニ和方其父ニ裸ニ立ツルヲ見テ日本ノ兵
隊ハ和方裸ヲ殺シ去リ日本ノ兵隊ハ和方衣服ヲ取リ和方
夜サセシニ和方裸ニ米コリ去リ和方刑務所ニ何ノ治療
モナク三日過シ去リシニ和方裸ニ取被リシ非命
硬道ニ又痛ムシ中絶ニト斷ル事ヲ出来ナカシ

Q#1418

DOCUMENT 2726

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Alva C. Carpenter, Chief, Legal Section,
General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the
Allied Powers, do hereby certify that the attached
photostatic copy of the affidavit of TAYAMBONG CHAGSA
is a true and correct reproduction of the original
affidavit; and that a signed and sworn copy of
said affidavit is presently on file with this
Section.

/s/ Alva C. Carpenter
Alva C. Carpenter,
Chief, Legal Section.

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 29th
day of October, 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard
Captain, Infantry
Summary Court